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A MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY

The Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control is pleased to present the Toxics Release Inventory (TRI) Report for the reporting year 2008. DNREC publishes this report as part of our efforts to inform citizens about environmental issues in their communities. This is the 22nd year of TRI data collection. The program has proven to be successful as a non-regulatory way to encourage pollution prevention and reductions of toxic chemical releases. When properly motivated and encouraged to innovate, Delaware companies have demonstrated continued progress in increasing efficiency and reducing their releases of toxic chemicals.

The 2008 data summarized in this report are encouraging. The Indian River and Edge Moor/Hay Road Power Plants, INVISTA, and Delaware City (Premcor/Valero) Refinery facilities reported significant reductions in on-site releases. These facilities reflect a trend towards greater accuracy and decreased releases. Delaware's 2008 total on-site TRI releases declined by 11% compared to 2007 reported releases. Reported releases to air and water were down 17% and 16%, respectively. Reported releases to land, however, were up by over 100%, which was caused primarily by the increased release at the Indian River Power Plant, as it shifted away from transfer/disposal off-site to disposal on-site for its ash. The long term trend for total on-site releases since 1998 shows a decrease of more than twenty percent. Although the data for on-site releases of carcinogenic compounds was up for 2008, the long term carcinogen trend is down, by 64%, or 548,000 pounds, since 1998. In the future, emissions from power plants will also be significantly reduced when compliance with our multi-pollutant regulations is achieved.

This TRI report shows progress in two important areas: Increased accuracy and decreased emissions across a broad front. Instead of relying on estimates, Delaware's TRI facilities increasingly use results from directly monitored data (36% of the total TRI waste contained in 10% of the reports for 2008). For 2006, the use of such direct data revealed higher than estimated nitrate compound releases from the Premcor refinery. For 2007 and 2008, Premcor further increased their water sampling to get better data over time, and the facility-reported discharge of nitrate compounds to the Delaware River decreased by 595,000 pounds for these two years. At the Edge Moor/Hay Road Power Plants, where emissions factors were used to estimate releases, reported releases of mercury to air decreased by 34 pounds, or 20%, for 2008.

We publish two TRI documents annually: This more technical *TRI Data Detail Report* and the shorter *Data Summary Report*, a more compact, less technical report. These reports and reports for recent years are available at DNREC offices and also through the public information link at <http://www.serc.delaware.gov/epcra.shtml>. CDs containing both reports were also sent to all public libraries. Specific facility data from 1995-2008 are also available at the above web site, and the ***Other Sources of Information*** section of this report provides details about the many other DNREC and EPA Internet sites devoted to community right-to-know.

I urge you to take advantage of the information in this report to learn about the management of chemicals in your community. I also encourage our industrial citizens to continue to reduce releases below today's levels and focus on providing a safer and more healthful environment for our future.

Sincerely,



Collin O'Mara, Secretary,

Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control